

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of permitting controlled access to medical information of a patient, the method comprising:

establishing a storage means for ~~containing~~ storing the medical information of the patient;

establishing a means for accessing the medical information by the patient or any other authorized user; and

controlling ~~the means for accessing~~ an authorization and a scope of access to the medical information by the patient according to ~~a type of entity~~ an assigned role of a user accessing the medical information, ~~wherein access is limited according to the type of entity~~ by modifying an access control list;

wherein the access control list lists each authorized user and the assigned role of each authorized user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the storage means is a central repository.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the means for accessing the medical information is controlled using a universally unique identifier.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said controlling step is overridden by a registered emergency provider.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, said controlling step further comprising notifying a patient that their medical information has been accessed.

6. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing a storage means for ~~containing~~ storing the medical information of the patient;

establishing a means for accessing the medical information by the patient or any other authorized user; and

~~controlling the means for accessing an authorization and a scope of access to the medical information by the patient according to a type of entity an assigned role of a user accessing the medical information, wherein access is limited according to the type of entity by modifying an access control list;~~

wherein the access control list lists each authorized user and the assigned role of each user.

7. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 6, wherein the storage means is a central repository.

8. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 6, wherein the means for accessing the medical information is controlled using a universally unique identifier.

9. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 6, wherein said controlling step is overridden by a registered emergency provider.

10. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 6, said controlling step further comprising notifying a patient that their medical information has been accessed.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for permitting controlled access to medical information of a patient, the system comprising:

storage means for ~~containing~~ storing medical information of the patient;

means for accessing the medical information by the patient or any other authorized user; and

means for controlling an authorization and a scope of access to ~~said means for accessing the medical information by the patient~~ according to ~~a type of entity~~ an assigned role of a user accessing the medical information, ~~wherein access is limited according to the type of entity by modifying an access control list~~;

wherein the access control list lists each authorized user and the assigned role of each authorized.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the storage means is a central repository.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the means for controlling the means for accessing the medical information comprises a unique identifier.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein said means for controlling the access of the medical information may be overridden by registered emergency providers.

15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein said means for controlling the access of the medical information further includes means for notifying a patient that their medical information has been accessed.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient is compensated for permitting some of the medical information to be available and used by a research institution.

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein during a doctor visit the patient provides access to the medical information for a time period long enough to support the visit at which point the access times out.

18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein access to the patient's medical information expires when a physician logs into another room/appointment.

19. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 assigning each user with a unique ID and pin, and
 tracking and notifying the patient of who accessed the medical information, what was accessed and when was access taken place.